

15 July 1960

To: Mr. Bowie
From: Beate von Oppen

Here, first of all is a corrected carbon copy of the paper on British policy which I left for you last week (together with a list of corrections, additions, and deletions). I had not then had time to proofread it. In the meantime I have gone through it once more, not in order to recast or to reorganise it (which it would need) but just in order to see that there was nothing left in it that was wrong or doubtful. This after all, I take it, is only to serve as background or raw material. I hope some of it is some use.

It does not say as much as you would probably have liked about the prospect for the future. The difficulty there, I must confess, is that I have been away and out of touch with the reality of British policy, British thinking, the mental climate of Britain and Europe just a bit too long to trust myself at this stage to evaluate the factors involved correctly. I always did feel that the most important factor was the psychological one; and now I can only guess at it from what I read, from indications I know to be very insufficient. Lacking the reliable "feel" for the present, I did not want to become too - probably misleadingly - speculative about the future. I have, however, added a few supplementary bits, which I attach.

The piece on Britain's apparently lukewarm attitude in the cold war is a postscript on the portion on British-American relations (Part II) of the longer piece on British policy. It is a subject that has worried me for years. And of course it worries Britain's allies.

On a separate sheet I have put down some general observations on the neglected subject of psychological defence. It is a field in which NATO might be able to do something.